

II Chronicles 1:7-12

THE PRAYER FOR WISDOM

- I. The choices.
 - A. Solomon's coronation was done quickly because Adonijah plotted to be crowned king (I Kings 1:5-7,32-40).
 - B. Solomon's wise dealings with these early crises emphasized to him his need for God's constant blessing.
 - C. God responds to Solomon's worship by asking Solomon what he wanted God to be given (7).
- II. Solomon's choice.
 - A. Solomon asks God to give him "wisdom and knowledge" (10); an "understanding heart" in I Kings 3:9.
 - B. Solomon wants wisdom and knowledge so he can judge, i.e., govern God's people (10).
 - 1. To govern is rule, deciding controversy and executing judgments, rewarding and punishing.
 - 2. It is to be able to distinguish not only good and evil, but the better and the best over against just getting something done.
 - C. The reasons behind Solomon's request are three.
 - 1. First, God made him king.
 - 2. Second, Solomon is conscious of his youth and inexperience (I Kings 3:7b).
 - 3. Third, the people he was to rule were great.
 - D. For what do ecclesiastical office-bearers ask when God puts them into office?
- III. God heard and answered Solomon.
 - A. God noted what Solomon did not ask for: riches, wealthy, honor, victory in battle, long life (11a).
 - B. God told Solomon that He would give to him wisdom and knowledge.
 - C. Office-bearers, never stop asking for wisdom.